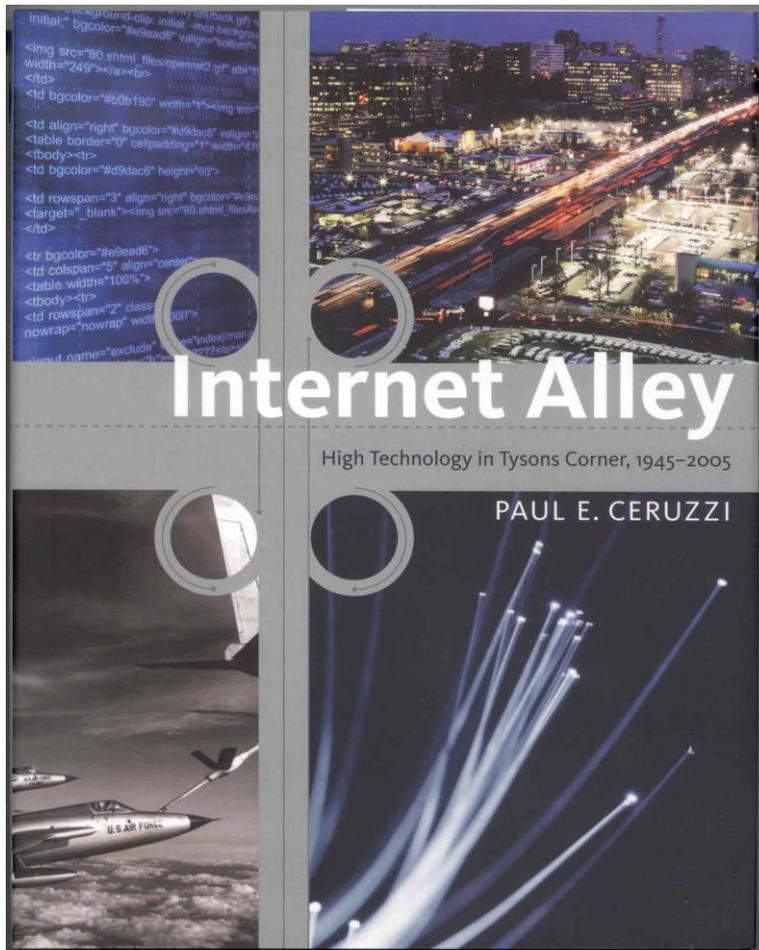
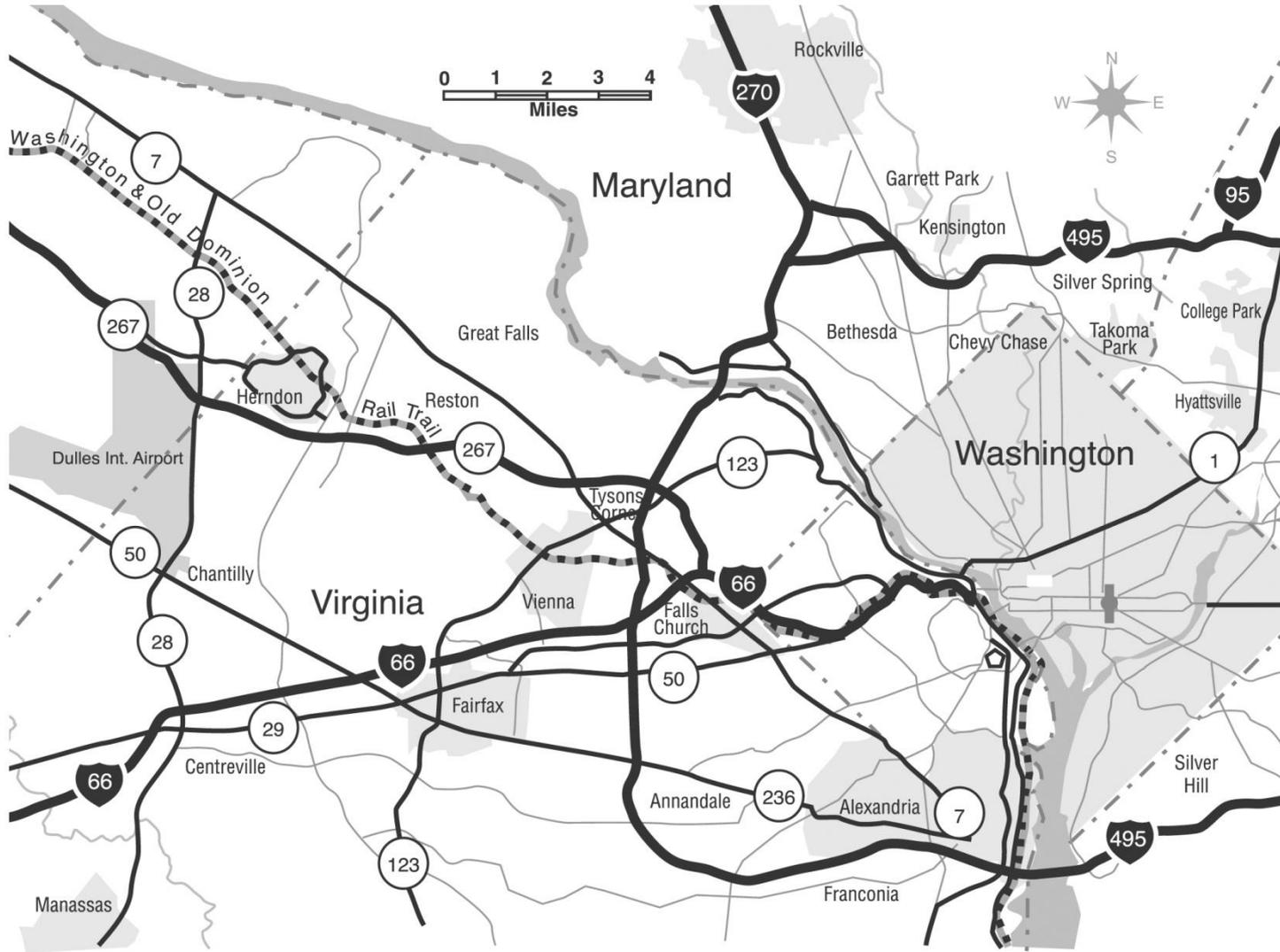


Internet Alley: High Technology in Tysons Corner, 1945-2005



Paul E. Ceruzzi
National Air & Space Museum
Washington, DC
March 4, 2009



Tysons Corner

- About 4 square miles
 - Intersection of Routes 7 & 123
 - Formed by chance alignment of Beltway (1964) and Dulles Access Road (1962)
 - About 10 miles west of White House
- 2nd largest center of employment in region
 - One of the largest on East Coast
 - Largest suburban retail center, also, since 1968
- The classic “Edge City” as studied by Garreau
 - Not incorporated: no post office, park, etc.
 - Parts in Vienna, Falls Church, McLean, etc.

Crossroads Market, ca. 1957
Intersection of Chain Bridge Road and Leesburg Pike



Chain Bridge Road (Foreground)



Chain Bridge Road (Route 123)

Leesburg Pike

Shopping Mall

BDM, ca. 1965



BDM

Leesburg Pike

Beltway

Dulles
Access
Road

MITRE

Research
Analysis Corp.

Chain Bridge Road

Vannevar Bush & the OSRD

- “Federalism by Contract”
- Operations Research – initially opposed



Postwar OR: the “FFRDC”

- RAND – Santa Monica
- RDB, WSEG, IDA
 - Located closer to (or inside) the Pentagon
 - Interservice rivalry
- ORO, Chevy Chase
 - Research Analysis Corporation, Tysons
- ANSER, Bailey’s Crossroads
- Center for Naval Analyses

The Pentagon

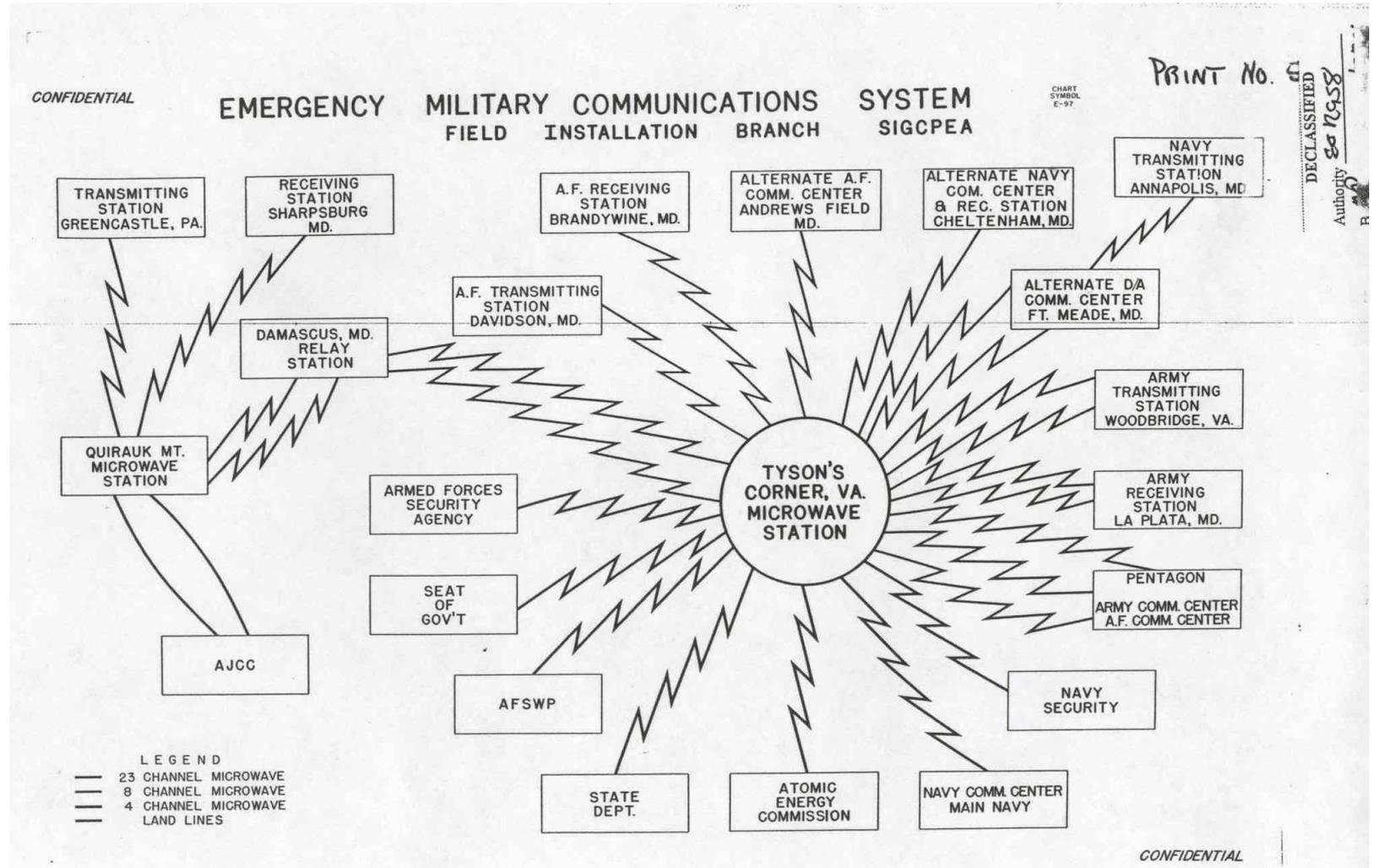
FDR helped choose the site, 1941

Automobile access, outside the DC grid.

Network of highways built at the same time

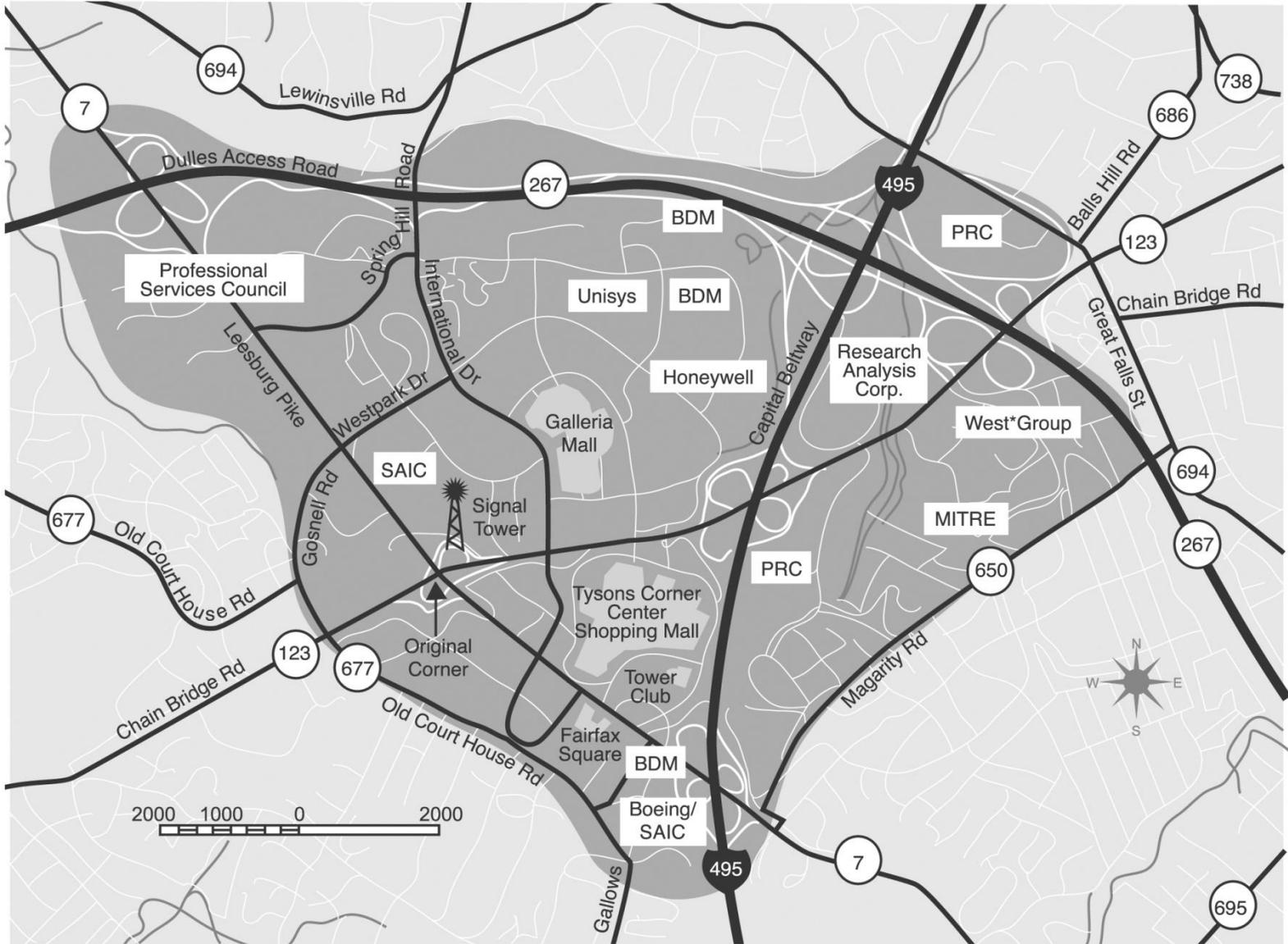


Dispersal of Federal Facilities



The For-Profits, ca. 1965

- Perception that FFRDCs were not working.
- Most settled in or around Tysons Corner
 - BDM
 - Earle Williams, CEO
 - PRC
 - RAND off-shoot
 - SAIC
 - Los Alamos off-shoot
 - CACI, DynCorp (Ballston, Reston)
 - Both in news recently regarding Iraq



Real Estate Issues

- West*Group, Gerald Halpin
 - “Every Scientist has a window”
 - Berms to hide parking
 - Well-appointed but not extravagant
 - Scandal of the NRO office in Chantilly, 2002
 - Security: “SCIF”



ARPA, MAE-East, A: Root Server

-



Conclusion

- Dispersal for reasons of national security no longer critical
- For-Profit contracting a way of life in Washington
- Tysons Economy healthy & robust
 - Other inner suburbs decaying (e.g. 7 Corners)
- “Edgeless” sprawl past Dulles
 - but Tysons will remain important